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NEWS DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM OF GERMANY

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Table of Contents

Page

I. Organization

A. Newspapers..... 1

1. The German Newspaper..... 1
2. Control of Non-Party Papers..... 3
   a. Home Press Division..... 3
   b. The Reich Press Chamber..... 4
   c. Foreign Press Division..... 5
3. Control of Party Newspapers..... 5
4. Economic Control of the Press..... 6

B. News Agencies..... 7

1. Government-Controlled Agencies..... 8
   a. DNB..... 8
   b. Other Foreign Sources.....10
   c. Other Government Agencies.....10
   d. Propaganda Kompanie.....11
2. Party-Controlled Agencies.....11
3. Other General Agencies.....12
4. Railroad Agency.....12
5. Specialized Agencies.....13

C. Radio News Services.....14

1. Organization of German Radio.....14
   a. RRG.....15
   b. Domestic Broadcasting Service.....16
   c. European Broadcasting Service.....16
   d. Overseas Broadcasting Service.....17
2. Party Radio Organization.....17
3. Foreign Office Radio Organization.....18

II. Collection and Distribution of News.....19

A. Procedure and Organization of the Press.....19

1. Organization of Journalist Personnel.....19
2. Classification of News Personnel.....19
3. Censorship.....20
4. Press Procedure.....21

Table of Contents - 2

Page

B. Technical Means of Distribution and Collection.....23

1. Letter and Messenger.....23
2. Wired Services: Telephone, Telegraph, and Teletype.....23
3. Radio and Hellschreiber.....24
4. Miscellaneous Services.....25

C. Broadcasting Services.....26

1. Domestic Broadcasting.....26
2. Foreign Broadcasting.....27

III. Tables

A. List of DNB Ramifications.....28
B. Organization of Europosender stations.....29
C. Distribution of Foreign News Broadcasts.....30

IV. Bibliography.....31

V. Maps

A. Teletype Networks in Germany
B. Hellschreiber Networks of the German News Agencies

VI. Chart: Routing of News and News Control in Germany

NEWS DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM OF GERMANY

The news distribution system in Germany, since the Nazi revolution, has occupied a place in society different from that of the American news distribution system. In contrast to its independent existence in the United States, the news service in Germany is only an instrument in the orchestra of propaganda and is integrated with the major political aims of the Nazi regime. This function of German journalism makes it difficult to distinguish clearly between the news and propaganda services, and, since it is a Nazi policy to abolish this distinction, many officials occupy dual positions in parallel government and news distribution organizations. These double positions are rarely held ex officio, however.

I. ORGANIZATION

A. Newspapers

1. The German Newspaper. As a state-controlled enterprise the German newspaper does not have the same type of localized and "popular" appeal of the average American paper. In the first place German newspapers often originated as special political or business organs for the support of a particular interest and not originally as a source

of public entertainment organized for profit. This policy of directed appeal has persisted through the transition from the many small independent papers to the rise of such large concerns as the Hugenberg house and later the Nazi-controlled Eher house. Society sections, extensive photographic coverage, comic sections, etc., so essential to the American newspaper public, do not appear in German newspapers.* This difference, of course, is still largely a difference in public taste and habit.

The government-controlled press naturally placed its emphasis on the national and international scene. There exists in Germany a more purely national press than is found in the United States. Another characteristic of the German newspaper is the editorial or feature treatment of all material in contrast to the American ideal of straight news coverage. One of the changes brought by state control was the almost complete elimination of commercial advertising.

State centralization did not necessarily involve any limitation in the field of interest covered by the press. In fact the keen competition for universality was one of the chief elements responsible for the enormous growth of news agencies. The result of all of these factors was an increasing tendency toward standardization

*After Hitler's rise to power the German newspapers increased their photographic coverage on orders from the Propaganda Ministry, which recognized the propaganda value of pictures.

and mechanical uniformity, to the advantage of the Nazi propaganda program. Individual staffs of papers were reduced to a minimum and many papers were simply put together from mats obtained by subscriptions from the various news agencies. In Germany before the war there was an estimated total of only 18,000 journalists to the 1,500 newspapers. Financial limitations and paper and manpower shortages because of war conditions have even more greatly reduced journalistic personnel.

2. Political Control of Non-Party Newspapers. To exercise its control over ordinary newspapers, the government operates through three divisions of the Propaganda Ministry (Reichsministerium für Volksaufklärung und Propaganda, RMVP): 1) the Home Press Division (Abteilung Deutsche Presse), 2) the Foreign Press Division (Abteilung Auslandspresse), and 3) the Periodical Division (Abteilung Zeitschriftenpresse), and also the Reich Press Chamber (Reichspressekammer).

a. The Home Press Division. Central political supervision is maintained by the Home Press Division, whose director is also (but not ex officio) chief editor of DNB (Deutsches Nachrichtenbüro). Specific functions of the Home Press Division include:

1. Control of editorial policy of the press;
2. Control of personnel through supervision of the Reich Press Chamber;
3. Control of news agencies;
4. Acting as main reception center and clearing place for all incoming information.

The regulation of editorial policy is equivalent to a remote control system of censorship. Directives by the Home Press Division specify the course of action of the newspapers down to the finest detail. In theory these come as suggestions but even the slightest deviation from the rules places the journalist in imminent danger of being suspended from his profession on the grounds of political unreliability.

The Information Center of the Home Press Division (Zentral-Nachrichtenstelle, ZNSt) is divided into three sections according to the classes of material handled:

1. Nachrichten-und Pressidienst, (NPD)*: all news agency and monitoring material for handing out to the press via DNB and to the broadcasting service via Drahtloser Dienst;

2. Besonderer Informationsdienst, (BID): chiefly confidential material, some of which is passed out through DNB;

3. Rundfunkdienst, (RD): secret material for distribution to the Foreign Office and the German High Command.

b. The Reich Press Chamber. This system of controls is completed by the standards of the Reich Press Chamber (a subdivision of the Culture Chamber), a semi-autonomous body under the supervision of the Propaganda Ministry. Newspaper personnel must belong to one of the following technical associations of the Press Chamber:

* Not to be confused with the news agency of the same name.

Reichsverband der deutschen Presse
Reichsverband der deutschen Zeitungsverleger
Reichsverband der deutschen Korrespondenz und Nachrichtenbüros

The vague wording of their membership codes is well adapted to its purpose: the permanent intimidation of German journalists and the exclusion of undesirable persons on almost any ground. The Reich Press Chamber has certain economic controls over the press (see Section 4).

Regional supervision is executed by the 42 (April 1944) Gau branches of the Propaganda Ministry.

c. The Foreign Press Division. The Foreign Press Division competes with the Foreign Office Press Division in supervision of foreign correspondents in the Reich. Censorship is again operated on a remote control basis so that undesirable reporters are politely excluded from inside meetings or their cable messages simply fail to arrive at their destination if they contain material embarrassing to the government.

3. Control of Party Newspapers. Within the government network of controls the Party maintains sovereignty over its own press by a somewhat parallel organization. The Reich Press Chief (Reichspressechef der NSDAP, RPC) heads the political division. He operates through two subordinate offices: the Political Press Division with headquarters in Berlin, and the Press Personnel Division with headquarters in Munich.

Duties of the Political Press Division consist of elaboration on the directives of the RPC, control of the official party news agency, Nationalsozialistiche Parteikorrespondenz, NSK, and supervision of the 42 April 1944 Gau branches of the Party press. These Gau offices also act as ex officio delegates of the Home Press Division and the Press Chamber, thus ensuring the overlapping of Party and government policy at the lower levels of control.

The Munich Office of the Press Personnel Division has three functional divisions: an index of all journalist personnel, a foreign press section, and a staff training division.

4. Economic Control of the Press. The Reich Leader of the Press (Der Reichsleiter für die Presse) (Amman) is in charge of the managerial and business side of the Party-owned press. He is also (but not ex officio) president of the Press Chamber and manager of the Zentralverlag. Executive functions are carried out through two divisional offices: the Administrative Office which supervises the local Party publishing houses, and the Zentralverlag, the holding company of the publishing machine. The Zentralverlag, an outgrowth of the Eher concern, today publishes 60 to 70 percent of the newspapers in Germany.

The Reich Press Chamber has control over the number of papers allowed to publish. First of all, only corporations which have its approval may own papers. Secondly, since the war paper and manpower shortages have caused further reductions. No town with less than 100,000 inhabitants may have more than one paper. These regulations have everywhere been interpreted in favor of Nazi Party papers. The only nominally independent papers are the private domains of high ranking Nazis.

B. News Agencies

Before 1933 there were approximately 1,000 news agencies in Germany, servicing the newspapers with news, editorials, syndicated columns, and illustrations. In line with the Nazi policy for controlling public opinion and propaganda, however, the Nazi regime has centralized these activities under DNB, and reduced the number of agencies to about 400 in 1937. Probably there are still fewer today. DNB was created through the amalgamation of two of the largest German news agencies, Wolff's Telegraphen Büro (WTB) and the Hugenberg-owned Telegraphen Union (TU) in 1933.

1. Government-Controlled Agencies.

a. DNB. Unlike the cooperative system of the American AP, DNB was originally set up as a capital-stock enterprise, the main stock of which was owned by Deutsche Bank und Diskontogesellschaft. Today, although still nominally a private firm, DNB is actually state-controlled and all or most of its shares are held by the Propaganda Ministry. Its official status is further emphasized by the dual position of its chief editor, who at present is also head of the Home Press Division, and its manager, who is also head of the compulsory organization of press agencies (Reichsverband der Deutschen Korrespondenz und Nachrichtenbüros) in the Press Chamber.

DNB has its central office in Berlin, but unlike most other agencies which are largely restricted to their Berlin headquarters, it has regional offices in the 42 Gaue and in most of the principal towns of Germany. In localities too small to support a branch office, the editor of the local newspaper acts as the DNB correspondent. Through this organization DNB has an almost exclusive monopoly of home news coverage and distribution and is the central channel for all official and semi-official government releases. Before the war it had an almost complete foreign coverage but its releases -- other than official statements -- were distributed through special

foreign press agencies. Some of the most prominent subsidiaries of DNB (see also Table A) are listed below.

1) For distribution within Germany:

Nachrichtendienst der deutschen Zeitungsverleger (NDZ) - news service of German newspaper publishers.

Deutscher Kulturdienst (DKD) - German cultural news agency.

Deutscher Handelsdienst (DHD) - German commercial news service.

Drahtloser Dienst - broadcasting news service.

2) For distribution abroad:

Internationales Informations Büro (IIB) - agency for least reliable DNB material, also international news service for home consumption.

Transkontinent Press - agency for less official DNB material sent to Eastern and Southeastern Europe. Radio transmitters in Vienna and Budapest, probably broadcast by Morse.

Transozean - offshoot of Europapress; serves the Americas and the Far East. It takes part directly in supplying German home papers only through its picture agency.

In April 1943 this agency and Europapress were recast as a single firm, Transozean-Europapress GmbH, now centered in Frankfurt. Radio service is Morse for overseas, Hellschreiber for Western Europe.

Europapress - covers Western Europe for both collection and distribution and is probably (like Transkontinent) the channel for second-class DNB material to this area. It also contributes economic articles to the domestic press.

b. Other Foreign Sources. For foreign material DNB may refer to other sources outside its own subsidiaries, such as the official news bureaus of Axis satellite and occupied countries: Stefani for Italy, Office Francais d' Information (OFI) for France (transmitter believed to be at Clermont-Ferrand, probably Morse, but may be Hellschreiber), and Ritzau for Denmark. A few of these agencies, such as Schweizerische Press Telegraph (SPT), Skandinvaviske Telegrambyra (STB), Bulls' Presstjänst, and the Norwegian Quisling agency Norsk Telegrambyra (NTB), are even more openly allied to DNB and can be classified almost as branch concerns.

c. Other Government Agencies. Two other agencies in the field of foreign news distribution are closely affiliated to the Foreign Office and are thus not directly controlled by the Propaganda Ministry. Deutsche Diplomatische-Politische Korrespondenz (DDPK) is the official organ for distribution of foreign policy abroad. Nachrichtenpressedienst (NPD) provides material on German home affairs and German foreign and general policy for the disposal of German press attachés abroad. Like DNB it has offices in all the large cities and its own staff of correspondents. Foreign broadcasts are

transmitted by Hellschreiber. These two agencies are financially independent but subject to the same political directives as the DNB subsidiaries.

d. Propaganda Kompanie (PK)

The OKW (German High Command) maintains its own propaganda organization, the Wehrmacht Propaganda, which is under the Wehrmachts Führanstalt (Joint Operations Staff). (Official releases of Wehrmacht Propaganda generally carry the abbreviation WFst/WPr The Wehrmacht Propaganda is in charge of all propaganda to and from the Armed Forces.

The Propaganda Kompanie (PK) is a military organization of correspondents under Wehrmacht Propaganda, some of whom are temporarily attached to each major military unit during operations. PK reports are censored by the military unit censors at the front and the Armed Forces Censors in Berlin, both for military security: after this they go to the Propaganda Ministry for Political censorship. The reports are disseminated by the Propaganda Ministry.

2. Party-Controlled Agencies. All official Party news releases are issued by Nationalsozialistische Parteikorrespondenz (NPSK or NSK). NSK is the official Nazi mouthpiece and, like DNB, it has its own Gaudienste and subsidiary organizations. It is subject to the political directives of the Propaganda Ministry. It distributes directives of the Party Propaganda Department concerning Party matters.

Other Party agencies include: Deutsche Arbeitkorrespondenz (DAK), official agency of the German Labor Front; Kulturdienst KdF, educational agency for the Party; Reichsjugendpressedienst (RJG), official agency of the Hitler Youth Movement; Wirtschaftspolitischer Dienst (WPD); Studentenpressedienst; and Nationalsozialistische Rundfunkkorrespondenz.

Zeitungsdienst Graf Reischach is also an official Party news agency, but not under NSK. Before 1933 the Reischach agency was concerned with Berlin correspondence for the provinces, but now chiefly supplies Party papers with material from abroad. It is a private domain of a powerful party member.

3. Other General Agencies. Three small general news agencies which cater to the medium-size and small provincial papers are:

Deutscher Provinzverlag;
Deutscher Maternverlag;
Wirtschaftskorrespondenz der Provinzpresse (Wipro).

4. Railroad News Office. The German National Railroad (Reichsbahn) has had its own press service since 1921. The organization consists of two central offices in Berlin and in Munich, and 26 branch offices. News is relayed by telegraph, teletype, and telephone. Some of the functions of the railroad press service are:

a) Relaying of weekly bulletins concerning connections, rates, tariffs, and improvements, to the press offices.

Leaflets are also sent to schools, institutes, and business organizations.

b) Distribution throughout its own network of special notices about communication and special tours.

c) Maintenance of accident news service within the railroad network and relaying of this information into the news agencies through the Berlin and Munich offices.

5. Specialized Agencies. Aside from the general agencies listed above, most of the 400 deal with special fields. For example, there was a news-ticker service which supplied newspapers and banks with the latest economic news and stock exchange reports or the Barthol agency which furnished news of the cattle market only.

The picture agencies Presse Hoffmann and Atlantic Photo supply picture coverage on a regular subscription basis. At all important events, special places are assigned to news photographers, and the Propaganda Ministry arranges for free transportation. All photographs sent out of Germany must be cleared through the Ministry. Photographs are usually incidental to the news and there are very few separately published pictorial sections or weekly photographic magazines in Germany. Hoffmann, who first established himself as Hitler's personal photographer, now has a virtual monopoly on official and Party pictures. Any local pictures or stories that do come in may be printed at the local editor's discretion, although important events are always directed through the Berlin headquarters.

C. Radio News Services

In Germany radio broadcasting has always been a state responsibility. In 1925 the German Broadcasting Corporation (Reichsrundfunkgesellschaft, RRG) was organized as a limited company, coordinating a network of 10 independent regional companies. The Reichspost acted as trustee for the company's fixed capital and was also responsible for technical and personnel standards of the broadcasting stations and for collecting the annual license fees for radio sets to be turned over to RRG. Administrative and broadcasting policies were, however, to a great extent determined regionally.

1. Organization of German Radio. In 1933, in line with Nazi centralization of control of public opinion, radio broadcasting was reorganized under the Propaganda Ministry. The Ministry exercised its control through two administrative divisions - the Broadcasting Division (Rundfunk Abteilung), responsible for the entire system of transmission and reception, and the Reich Radio Chamber (Reich Rundfunkkammer), which assisted in such duties as training broadcasting personnel and sponsoring the manufacture, retailing, and advertising of radio sets. Because of the conflicting membership of technical organizations the Rundfunkkammer was dissolved in 1939 and its functions divided between the Party and the Propaganda Ministry.

The Broadcasting Division of the Propaganda Ministry is now the chief supervising agency for radio activity in Germany, outside of the technical and personnel standards maintained by the Reichspost. Since so much of the time of the head of the Broadcasting Division is taken up with operational details, much of broadcasting policy and many of the directives are formulated in the Propaganda Coordinating Division of the Ministry.

a. RRG. RRG is the administrative organ of the Broadcasting Division and has its headquarters in Rundfunkhaus, Berlin. It operates through four main executive divisions: the Office of the Director General, Programs, Engineering, and Administration. The Director General's Office is at the apex of the administrative hierarchy and issues the directives to the broadcasting section heads, who in turn issue detailed orders to the individual script writers. A second major function of this division is the organization and coordination of news services for broadcasting, which are largely supplied directly by DNB's subsidiary, Drahtloser Dienst. News items from other sources must be censored by the Director General's Office before they can be made available for braodcasting. Foreign radio news service is supplied largely by Drahtloser Dienst. The department of Foreign Broadcasts, including the Europasender and Overseas Service, is also under this office.

The Programs Division is responsible for the planning, integration, and presentation of domestic broadcasts. The Greater German Wireless system is administered from this office. There is also a department for artistic and entertainment programs (Abteilung Kunst und Unterhaltung) and a special war unit (Kamaradschaftsdienst) doing broadcasts to and from the armed forces.

The Engineering Division of RRG functions chiefly in a research and liaison capacity, since technical operation has been left under the jurisdiction of the Reichspost.

b. Domestic Broadcasting Service. When RRG was centralized under the Propaganda Ministry, the semi-independent regional companies were assimilated into the national network, known as the Greater German Wireless (Grossdeutscher Rundfunk). The local offices are now modeled on the national headquarters, each having its regional director-general, program, engineering, and administrative divisions.

The central station of the Greater German Wireless is the powerful long-wave transmitter Deutschlandsender, with its studios in Berlin and its transmitter at Herzberg near Berlin. There are thirteen regional stations (Reichssender) and a large number of synchronized groups of provincial and local stations (Gleichwelle).

c. European Broadcasting Service. The European Service of RRG is broadcast through a special network known as Europasender, of which Reichssender and Deutschlandsender stations form the nucleus. To these are added the extensions

of various conquered and "collaborating" stations. The organization consists (1942) of four central stations, six long-wave stations connected with the above, and 14 medium-wave stations. (See Table B.)

d. Overseas Broadcasting Service. The German Overseas Service operates through a network of powerful short-wave transmitters. Its center is located at Zeesen (near Berlin) which before 1938 was Germany's only short-wave station. Since then the short-wave facilities of most of Continental Europe have been subordinated to the German Overseas network, but Zeesen remains the most important.

2. Party Radio News Organization. Outside of the Propaganda Ministry, the Party has its own Amt Rundfunk, which functions largely as a listeners' research organization. This was in a sense an outgrowth of the Radio Listeners' Society (Reichsverband Deutscher Rundfunkteilnehmer), which the Nazis succeeded in dominating as early as 1932. The society is still in existence as the Reichsarbeitgemeinschaft Rundfunk but has been subordinated to the rest of the Party program. The Amt Rundfunk keeps in close touch with individual and group listeners through its regional and local offices and also arranges for the relaying of national and Party events by providing loudspeakers for public squares, meeting houses, restaurants,

offices, schools, and factories. There are three operating divisions: Haupstelle Kulturpolitische Rundfunkarbeit und Rundfunkorganisation, Headquarters of Cultural and Political Radio, Haupstelle Rundfunkpropaganda, Headquarters of Radio Propaganda, and Haupstelle Rundfunktechnik, Headquarters of Radio Technique.

3. Foreign Office Radio News Organization. The Foreign Office, although not maintaining a news section of its own since rudio news bulletins are a concern of the Propaganda Ministry, does operate a monitoring service (Sonderdienst Seehaus) for recording, translating, and transcribing foreign broadcasts anywhere in the world. In this way it does contribute some material for release to the news services (through the Propaganda Ministry) as well as to military and state intelligence divisions.

II. COLLECTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF NEWS

A. Procedure and Organization of the Press

1. Organization of Journalist Personnel. The methods of distribution and collection of news in Germany are like those in the United States except for the German concentration on the news agency and the effect of this on the organization of journalist personnel. Foreign coverage is almost entirely relayed by the news agencies, DNB and/or its subsidiaries. Domestic coverage, except for a few of the larger papers (whose independent staffs, however, have been considerably curtailed by the manpower shortage), is also taken care of by the agencies rather than by independent reporters. Even before the war the smaller papers could not afford adequate reporter coverage within Germany and depended completely on material supplied by subscriptions to specialized agencies. They had no editorial staff whatever and news was supplied in mats to which the local paper had only to add its own heading.

2. Classification of News Personnel. German news personnel may be classified in four groups. The first is composed of press attaches who hold diplomatic positions at the German consulates, legations, and embassies. They function as agents for official material and as supervisors of the correspondents in their area. For propaganda purposes these men provide news free of charge to the papers in some

foreign countries (notably South America) either directly or indirectly, e.g., by installing teletypewriters for unlimited "trial" periods or, more cautiously, by reimbursing from secret funds those foreign newspaper publishers who subscribe to German services. Class two consists of the journalists who are regular news reporters or special feature writers. Class three comprises the editors of local papers, who act in the capacity of news reporters for the agency in areas which are too small to support a branch office. Class four is the Propaganda Kompanie (PK), a special group of correspondents in military service in the Army. They send in the so-called "Front Reports."

3. Censorship. Censorship is operated largely on the remote control basis of news agency editing of all general material. Local material may be published at the local editor's discretion but any stories of national importance must go through the central office of the news agency, under the supervision of the Home Press Division, before being released.* DNB, for example, supports a large editorial staff for rewriting raw news material as it comes in. It has a team (Bereitschaftsdienst) consisting of

* There is no such thing as a "scoop" story in Germany, for any individual, stories uncovered either in the international or local field can be released only through the Propaganda Ministry. In the pre-Hitler period the usual way for a German newspaper man to "scoop" his colleagues was to obtain an interview with a German statesman or visiting foreign personality, in an effort to get some "off the record statements" from him. But public officials are now no longer interested in press support which is automatically theirs due to the "coordination" of the papers. Foreign personalities are only interviewed on official instructions.

four specially privileged censor-editors, one each for political, military, and economic news (one alternate for rush jobs), working at the same time on a day-and-night schedule (a total of 12 on a 3-shift system). These men are familiar with the current regulations and so are qualified to make immediate decisions on 95 percent of the incoming material. The other 5 percent is delayed for distribution until it can be referred to the Zentral-nachrichtenstelle of the Home Press Division for censorship. Most of the agencies work on similar systems.

Material is classified by color scheme in DNB:

white: secret, included in Informationpolitischer Sonderdienst, a confidential circular issued to the papers for background only;

blue: raw material to be worked up by the press;

green: material issued directly from the Propaganda Ministry to be printed literally as sent.

4. Press Procedure. (See Chart 1.) Each of the German news agencies and the larger newspapers has one or more correspondents or even an office with a large staff in Berlin. Their Berlin offices are the focal point of collection, as well as distribution, for most of the news is issued directly from the Propaganda Ministry or the Foreign Office at press conferences in the form of directives and carefully digested information.

The general order for press procedure is as follows. The Propaganda Ministry holds one daily general political conference for German correspondents and one for foreign correspondents. The Foreign Office has one joint conference each day, also on political subjects, but presented from a slightly different angle. The material dictated at these conferences makes up most of the copy for the day and is presented in a finished form ready for publication.

All newspapers receive a daily set of these directives from their local DNB office. Typical information contained in a directive is as follows:

a) News items free for publication;
b) News items to be withheld from publication;
c) Material for compulsory publication;
d) Choice of headings;
e) Directions regarding the continuation, stiffening, toning down, or dropping of current campaigns.

These instructions are considered to be secret and are always received by special messenger from the local DNB office. The local DNB offices in turn receive their secret copies from the Berlin headquarters by teletype or Hell-schreiber transmission. The Party also holds its own conferences and there are "inside" conferences called for particular events. Specialized news is obtained from agencies designated for their particular field.

B. Technical Means of Distribution and Collection

The technical means used for relaying news into the central office can be any one of the following methods: (1) letter and messenger, (2) telephone, telegraph, teletype, (3) Hellschreiber and Fx-fixed-point radio communication, the choice depending upon the degree of urgency and the distance involved. Nearly all information contained in this section is pre-war, unless otherwise noted.

1. Letter and Messenger. Letter (ordinary airmail or special delivery) was used to relay featured material or general directives, but not news events. Special messengers were employed for collection usually only within the city limits but could be sent over greater distances with secret material such as the directives distributed from the Propaganda Ministry, especially to places which did not have Hellschreiber or Fixed-Point radio services.

2. Wired Services (telephone, telegraph, teletype). The press had the advantage of reduced rates for telegrams and telephone calls. It enjoyed a high priority, immediately after government service. Ordinary press telegrams were sent at half-rate, but urgent press telegrams were sent at the full rate of ordinary public telegrams. Overseas press telegrams were sent at one-third the full rate. There was world-wide Morse telegraph news service. Press telephone calls were probably subject to the same regulations. All telephone conversations of foreign correspondents who have

their head offices in neutral and Axis countries are monitored. Cable messages are frequently delayed or simply fail to arrive at their destination, because of "a technical breakdown."

Teletype service is controlled by the Reichspost and news agencies could rent lines much as large concerns do. (See Map A.) Newspapers had teletype connections to every large city in Germany. DNB had a privately owned teletype network for both receiving and distributing news. It was connected night and day with the Gau and other important branch stations. DNB also operated a local teletype net in Berlin, which was connected with many Berlin newspapers and banks. On the local network, subscribers could only receive and could not send. There were also teletype machines in the offices of German diplomatic representatives all over Europe.

3. Radio and Hellschreiber. DNB and some of the other large agencies have Hellschreiber service for European and overseas connections. (See Map B.) The German diplomatic representatives also have their own Hellschreiber service throughout the world. Hellschreiber is used largely for distribution purposes because of its advantage of secret transmission. The code is meaningless unless the receiver has a machine of the same specifications as those for which the transmission is set (teletype transmits ordinary Baudot

and can be easily intercepted). Only those newspapers which had Hellschreiber machines could get the news and Hellschreibers could be purchased only from Siemens and Halske under a licensing arrangement with DNB. Hellschreiber is particularly suited for radio service because it can be operated under greater interference.

Fixed-point radio service is also operated by DNB in both its domestic and foreign offices. Like the Hellschreiber and teletype, it is the ideal news instrument for sending the same news at the same time to many different connected offices. PK's war correspondents use mainly radio or Hellschreiber to relay their dispatches. The wires used by all of these agencies are those of either the Reichspost or of RRG. The Reichspost also provides mobile or dismountable post offices with radio and teletype devices for special events such as political rallies or athletic meets.

4. Miscellaneous Services. The Drahtfunk (high-frequency radio program transmission over telephone wires for reception by telephone subscribers) is also used for news dissemination.

Within Berlin, correspondents also used the pneumatic tube system known as the Rohrpost.

Until 1935 the mails were used to distribute pictures to the papers but telephotography (facsimile) services are now employed throughout Germany.

5. Broadcasting Services. The broadcasting news services are organized very much like the press services, and are subject to the same political directives as the news agencies. Broadcasting reporters attend the same ministerial conferences in Berlin and a similar senior-editorial group on RRG is responsible for "quick-decision" censorship. Actually most of the news comes in a pre-censored form from Drahtloser Dienst, radio subsidiary of DNB. RRG also operates its own teletype network not only for news but also for all business connections between studios and Berlin headquarters. By 1942 RRG had purchased or rented 12,000 km. of teletype lines from the Reichspost.

a. Domestic Broadcasting. The Greater German wireless network is the domestic broadcasting division of RRG. All news is official and all stations are hooked up for presentations which take place 8 to 10 times a day from 5:30 a.m. until midnight. Restaurants and other public places are required to have their radios on during these hours.

Domestic news broadcasts may be classified in four groups: news bulletins and high-command communiqués, political talks, military commentaries, and front reports.

b. Foreign Broadcasts. Foreign news broadcasts are issued by the Europasender and Overseas services. From these stations there were in 1941 an average of 279 daily news bulletins, 150 by Europasender stations, and 129 by short-wave overseas stations. (See Table C.) There were also daily reports in 21 languages from the different war fronts.

Table A

DNB Ramifications: 1939

(a) Political

Berliner Redaktionsdienst (NDZ)
Radiodienst (NDZ)
Blik in die Welt (NDZ)
Ibero Amerikanische Korrespondenz (NDZ)
Koloniale Nachrichten (NDZ)
Auslandsbriefe
Volkdeutscher Dienst
Deutscher Dienst
DNB Dienst
DNB Pressereibfunk (German and French)
Informativ-politischer Sonderdienst
Internationale Information
Das Thema der Woche
Deutsche Diplomatische-Politische Korrespondenz
(edited by the Foreign Office and now called DPK)

(b) Economics and Trade

Deutscher Handelsdienst (with a broadcast version)
Amerikanischer Finanz und Handels Special-dienst
Berliner Börsenhalle
DNB Kursdienste
Nachrichten für den Aussenhandel
DNB Handels Mater
Münchener Kursmater
Deutscher Schnelldienst für Politik und Wissenschaft

(c) Regional Services

Berliner Bericherstattungssonderdienst
"Landesdienste" "Wirtschaftsdienste"
"Sportdienste" of all regional DNB branches
Münchener Kursmater
Regional Picture Services

(d) Sport

DNB Sportdienst
DNB Sportspiegel
Volkssport und Leiberserziehung

Table B

Organization of 1942 Europasender Stations

Central stations:

Bremen
Weichsel
Donau
Europarundstrahler

Long-wave stations:

Deutschlandsender
Luxemburg
Friesland
Allouis
Minsk
Oslo

Medium-wave stations:

Alpen
Breslau
Kattowitz
Köln
Königsberg
Leipzig
Stuttgart
Hamburg
Prague
Calais
Bordeaux-Meac
Bordeaux-Lafayette
Rennes-Thourie
Paris-Argenteuil

Table C

Distribution of Foreign News Broadcasts
(1941)

19 - Great Britain

22 - Scandinavia

44 - Western Europe

14 - Southern Europe

22 - Southeastern Europe

36 - Eastern Europe

20 - USA and Canada

22 - Spanish America

13 - Brazil

17 - Africa

29 - Far East

22 - Australia

28 - Western Asia

3 - German listeners in Europe

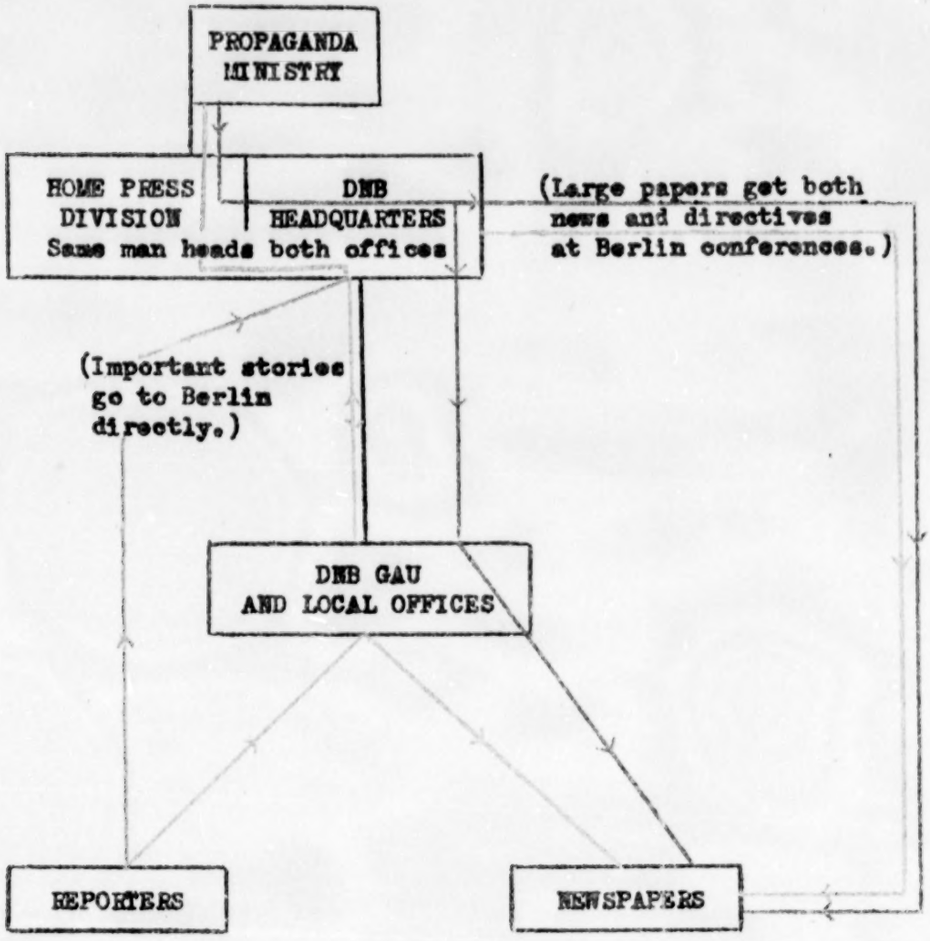
IV. Bibliography

General literature on the German news distribution system is usually more political than descriptive in emphasis. There is no good up-to-date source describing the prosaic and ordinary details of German news distribution. The two latest and best general works are the Civil Affairs Handbook on Germany: Section 12, Communications and Control of Public Opinion (ASF Manual M 356-12, OSS R&A No. 1323) and the British Basic Handbook on German Propaganda. The former is Restricted, and the latter is Secret.

Older works of a more detailed nature are Groth, Die Zeitung (4 vols., 1926) a classic study of the German press, and Dovifat, Zeitungswissenschaft für Lehrer (2 vols., 1931, a short student's handbook with some later editions). Among periodicals Zeitungswissenschaft, and the annual Handbuch Deutsche Tagespresse are excellent sources.

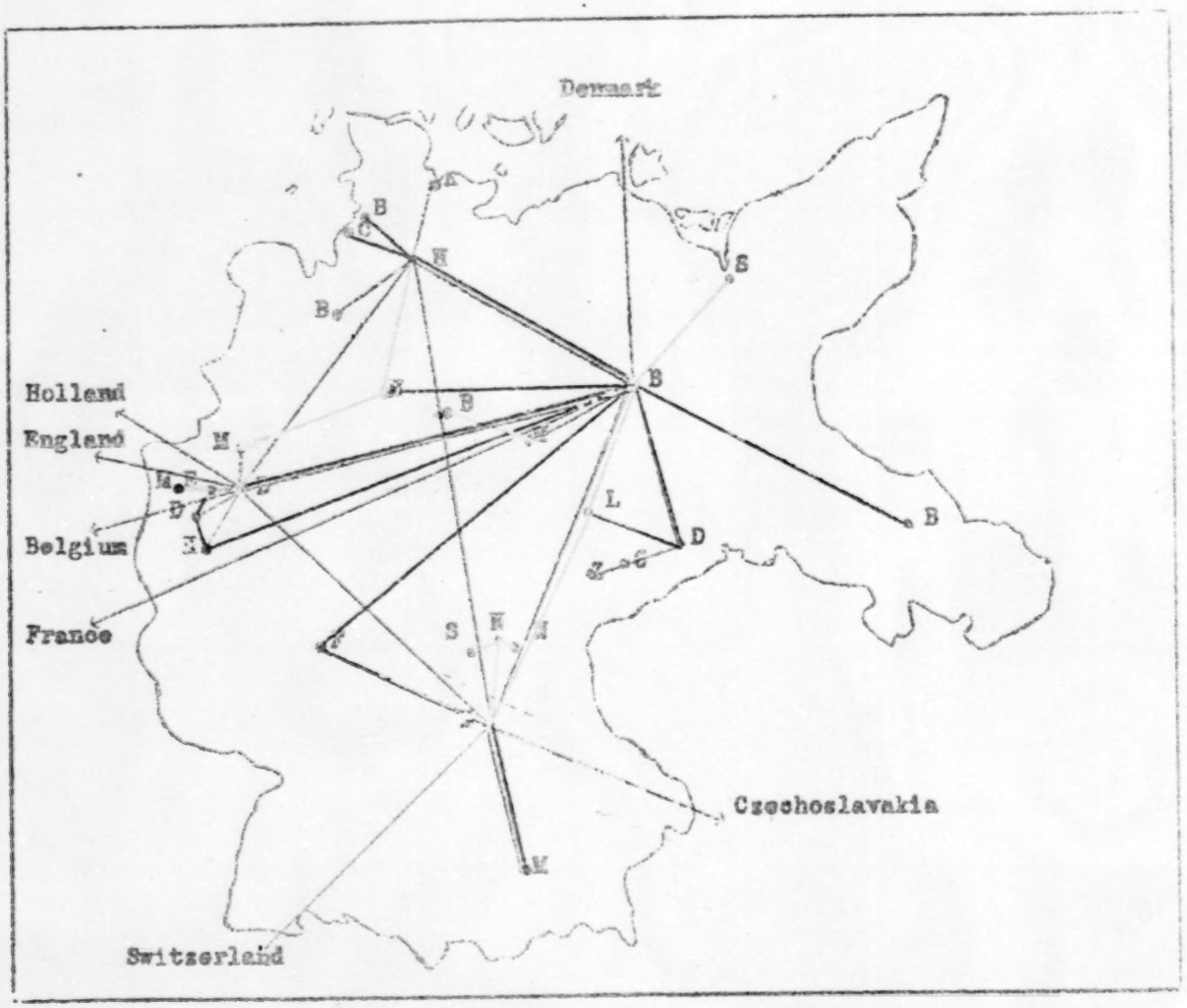
CHART I

ROUTING OF NEWS AND NEWS CONTROL IN GERMANY



To accompany OSS R&A 2100

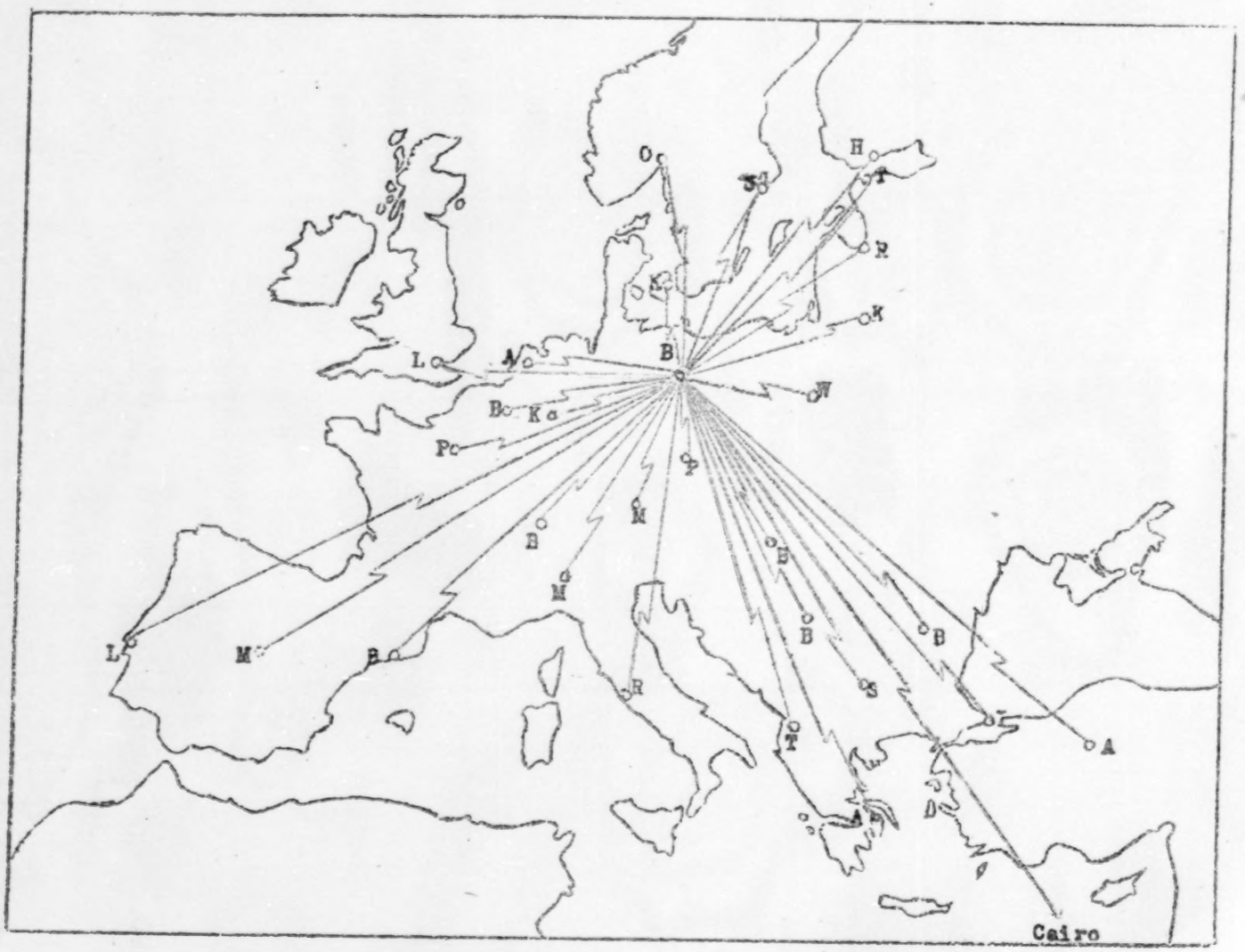
To accompany OSS R&A 2100



TELETYPE NETWORKS IN GERMANY
(JUNE 1938)

—— News Agency Line
—— Other Existing Line (Leased to private concerns or extension of public line.)
—— Public Line

To accompany OSS R&A 2100



HELLSCHREIBER NETWORKS OF THE GERMAN NEWS AGENCIES
(APRIL 1938)